SUPPLEMENT TO THE MACON BEACON.



BACK to the old farm home rush will tire of it. Another game that is children and grandchildren for less noisy is blindman's wand, is the Christmas time. Truly it is wather at grandma's for the holidays. They come from city and village and wives out to the farm in the great bobthe first pleasure of the Christmas anticipation has been the first.

The country, many of them, are way that will get them thoroughly acfather, as hostess and host, must pro- and the game begins over again. variety to keep all interested.

with an abundance of hay and warm | Another is a suck race, a which the comforters. Behind the big sled are hitched several small hand sleds, the smallest one of all being at the extreme end of the line, and onto these crowd the boys and girls, and oftentimes some of their parents, who have not forgotten the joys of such a froite. Then away they go, up hill and down, over all sorts of roads and around tharp corners. And at the sharp corpers is where the greatest fun comes

which the parties playing form a circle the merriest season of all the year, about the one who is blindfolded. Tha when brothers and sisters and cousins blindfolded one has a cane or small about him to the accompaniment of country, and grandfather meets the any well known song, he points his trains and takes each party as it ar- wand at one in the circle and imitates the noise made by some animal. The sled, behind his best team, and that is one pointed to must repeat the noise, disguising his voice so that he may outing, or, rather, the second, as the not be known. Three times may the test be repeated, imitating a different animal each time. If at the end of the strangers, or practically so, to each three tests the blindfolded one is still other, and to make the family party a undecided as to who he is pointing to success they must be entertained in a he may run his wand over him and find out in that way, if possible. If he guainted, and grandmother and grand- guesses who it is places are exchanged wide entertainment of a sort that will Christmas candles sound Christ

accomplish this. At the same time the masy, and will be remembered by the entertainment must recall the old ciders as one of the pleasures of long home days to the cloers, so what is ago. A lighted candle is placed upor more appropriate than the old farm a small table, when one person is games that are over new. There must bill dfolded and stationed with his be some hing for every minute of the back to the candle, and close to it. He waking hours to prevent the forma- is then to take four steps forward tion of cilques that would breed antag- turn around three times and return onisms among the various zets of con- and blow out the candle. Simple as sins, and there must be enough of the game is, it will afford amusement for an hour on Christmas eve.

Grandfather takes hold of the ar- If grandfather wishes to provide rangements for the out-door games something especially for the boys, and Above all things, there must be a has a big barn, he can get up a series hitching party, for the children from of races, at which the girls will be in-the city know none of its pleasure; terested spectators. A threelegged race, Again the big bob-sled comes into in which the legs of two conterants play, and into its commodious box are are tied together, will be exceedingly tucked all the wee mites of the party, funny, especially to the onlookers



last fled, and to avoid controversy grandiather must have arranged a partial in the spilling of them into the great sport for the boys and the audisnow drifts.

Another amusement that grandfather can take charge of might be called a fox hunt, only there is no fox, and the trail must be marked by bits of paper scattered along. If the snow is deep it is not practical to make the youngsters. "Bob apple" is a good be- There are four divisions into which be provided. Have your Santa Claus trail too long, or into the deep drifts, but should follow marked paths, but when the snow is not deep it may go let each have a try at catching one of tree, if one is used; the entertainment, anywhere about the farm. The hunters must follow the trail by the bits of Wet faces and soiled dresses will be should be a little prize for the winner, of fun that is had. Later, a hunt though not one of sufficient value to through grandomther's garret will make the less fortunate ones feel badly provide the necessaries for Christmas the success of what follows. Scripture candy, nuis, etc., is a question which at not having won.

mother will have little presents for all such characters as Dame Plum Pud- sion. The lettering can be done in ognized among the schools of the land, the children, and it adds to the interest to have a Christmas tree for them, but Pie, etc. Charades and shadow shore not one of the ordinary sort that is set up in the parior. Instead, if the as a climax, comes a Virginia reel, in out of doors, and any orehard or shade the singing of a Christmus carol, and tree that is not too high may serve as the happy guests are off to bed and the regulation evergreen. If night in pleasant dreams, should be made to climb the higher wish that Christmas might last

limbs for their presents. For grandmother's part, inside the house there are many games in which all can engage. The games should be simple, so that they may be readily Christmas present, why don't you have understood. The old-fashioned countryour wife make you something with try games are by far the best for such | her own hands?

tion, and is a joby way in which to smooting facket, and the materials she all the latent talent and ability in your up, but has to be stood against the wall man?" pass an hour's time, but cannot be bought (or) me the least part of a tem school. scutinged too long, or the children spot widge

THE FUN OF A HITCHING PARTY

from the neck down. Thus prepared,

they are given a certain distance to go, and are prepared to cover the distance in any way they can quickest, as, for example, jumping or rolling. A potate rate, or on egg race, is yet another game which will furpish great amusement. In these there is laid out on the string is almost sure to upset and spill its occupants into the drifts beside the road. To be sure, all will want the honor and excitement of riding on that last fled, and to a spill for the drifts being and the purpose a pit for the purpose in the barn, and the boys be given schedule so as to give seach one a chance at it, and must try to be imeach a designated pig to catch. It

Christmas night in the house is the lized the heauty and force of the words of Jesus: "Inasmuch as ye did it unto one specially felt the burden and every one was made blessof Jesus: "Inasmuch as ye did it unto one specially felt the burden and every one was made blessof Jesus: "Inasmuch as ye did it unto one specially felt the burden and every one was made blessof Jesus: "Inasmuch as ye did it unto one specially felt the rayest time of all the heliday season, one of the least of these ye did it unto ness of some one else. I have not said Grandmother has prepared for it, and Me." The spirit and purpose of the anything about a Santa Claus, because the last trace of embarrassment has celebration must not be forgotten.
worn away from the shyest of the Rot what shall the celebration ginning for the evening. Place a num- this subject naturally falls: Decora if you must, but pray over the matter ber of apples in a bowl of water and let each have a try at catching one of tree, if one is used; the entertainment, cellent way." scattered paper, and at the goal there fully compensated for in the amount mummers, in which old Father Christ-Of course grandfather and grand- mas leads the revellers, composed of ding, Sir Loin of Beef, Miss Pumpkin sveigreen, or gilt or colored letters especially of the larger cities, and that follow in *apid succession, and then,

chosen as the time for the Christmas. When grandfather's big sled carries tree festivities, a few lenterus may them book to the trains that are to disserve the purpose of candles, and the tribute them to their far-away homes enildren should climb the ladder in they will vote this the merriest search of their own presents. Of Christmas of all they have had, and expensive evergreen and holly. If the their easy means of giving. Present express car may cause it to turn black. Into to the hearth where logs are burncourse the boys, as the better climbers, grandfather and grandmother will throughout all the year.

A Costly Experiment. Crawford-Instead of buying you .



THE SPIDER'S WEB

A SUBSTITUTE FOR THE CHRISTMAS TREE

most infinite. First determine the kind to those in need. One stocking, knit by

of entertainment, that is, whether it an o.d lady when she was a little girl for

shall be a cantata, a part programme her doll, was filled with silver coin.

in which the boys and girls sing and The school contributed an express

by some outside talent. The latter is candy, toys, and dolls, and clothing, be

desirable with schools of over 500 sides nearly \$20 in money, and that by membership, but in smaller schools it a school of only 300, a majority of whom

NO THOROUGHFARE.

Toddy?

thing!-Brooklyn Life.

Sordid.

He gives you diamond scaripins when

d rather have a ton of coal

To Thaw Frozen Creens.

A Reminiscence.

we cele- parents love to see their children shar- boy or girl who was present at the en-

through the furniture, from room to room, up and down stairs, and day season a spider's web will add to the merriment of the season.

burden and rush of planning for the the heart of the child. I remember one

vent the greatest event in the whole entertainment where, after a very

year for the Sunday school—to forget the spirit and purpose which should lebehind the preparations, and give in-

spiration and direction to all the plans. thought home to the hearts of the boys

is the birthday party of the Christ and girls, and the influence of which

child, if you please, and He should not was noted in the weeks following by

Him to help them in making the plans. the entertainment, some looked after

And Jesus was there in the person of the decorations, while the older classes

20 or 30 of His little ones from a neigh-

boring orphanage, and the boys and the younger classes. The work was so

girls of at least one Sunday school real- divided that no one specially felt the

But what shall the celebration be? and more attractive features which can

tions, which includes the Christmas and let Jesus "show you a more ex-

rations comprise a very important and It is right and proper that the school

beautiful part of the celebration. They should provide something for its boys

create the atmosphere, and give the and girls, but whether it is wise and

first impressions, which go far towards best to put so much money in cheap

texts should be liberally used, selecting each school must decide for itself. One

may be used. The star should be con- is that "it is more blessed to give than

spicuous. The extent of the decora- to receive." The school that overlooks

tions depends, of course, largely upon this means of joy and blessing misses

be lightened by enlisting the interest fore the achool and the classes are to south.

of the individual classes and getting see which class will have the largest

a few of the older ones to furnish some stocking. In one school where this was

feature of the decorations or some text tried some of the stockings were so big

such as are appropriate to the occa- thing is becoming more and more rec-

I feel that there are so many other

Christmas for the

Sunday School D

By WILLIS S. EDSON

ment feature of the celebration are al- the deep joy underlying it all of giving

HERE is no Sunday school but gramme furnished by the talent in the Another year this same school adopted

brate?" but "How shall we celebrate;" ing in the exercises. Space will not tertainment and was right royally en-

The Christmas tree has by no means passed the day of its use- then at the far end of the ribbon is the present. To secure the present fulness, and let us hope that it never may do so, but a variety is some- the child must follow the windings of the ribbon wherever it may lead times desirable at Christmas time, as well as at other times, and to until the gift is arrived at and claimed. Such a plan is productive of get it the spider's web may be substituted for the tree. The way of much innocent amusement, and the surprise at the end of the ribbon arranging it is to have a large spider made of wire and other material is all the more appreciated for the search it has taken to find it. For suspended from the ceiling, or attached to the wall. To this are Christmas house parties, either for children or for "grown ups," the brought a number of reels, or spindles, one or more for each person scheme will add much to the pleasure of the occasion, and will serve to be remembered. Each spindle should contain a different colored as a means of getting all present better acquainted. When the sons string or ribbon, and these are then threaded in a bewildering maze and daughters and grandchildren return to the old home for the holi-

speak, or an entertainment furnished | wagon load of provisions, fruit ruts and | FOUND IN DIFFERENT COUN-

In Many of Them the Farm Animals came from homes of working people. Play an Important Part in the should have and does have its school, as it appeals to the sympathy, 20 to 30 orphans from a neighboring in-Christmas celebration. It is not pride and loyalty of its members, and stitution. Each class had a particular Observances of the Day.

Christmas comes but once a year, but permit our going into details, but we tertained by the class and then sent. In different nations one finds many superintendent and his helpers, who along in the fall after the trials of picture for the programme too long. The individual need of each adopted them grotesque and absurd, and some do not know; but I do know that a companion of the institution with profuse and unseemly accompanion. by this question which comes up and fun and frolic, but do not forget to and those things for which it had spe-ments, were also not a few of more answered just as well."

good time, with Santa Claus and Christ. bration is held, has opportunity to dren's day, pienic, scholars' social, or became naturalized in our own prosaic mas tree, to make the celebration an make his presence felt. The entertain- what not, there is need of prayer in land, was one that the cattle, at one abiding joy and blessed memory. The ment committee ought to pray earn planning and planning in prayer; there o'clock on Christmas morning, when-Christmas celebration should not be estly over the plans, and seek Divine is need of purpose and method and in- ever they were free to do so, would turn

The early inhabitants of the great

trees and fences, for them to feed upon. buy and place them everywhere. Every poorman and every head of a family Mamma - What is troubling you, Toddy (new to steam-heated flats) -I was wonderin' how on earth Santa the young colt, the cattle, the sheep, the was ever going to get through that beautiful custom, and speaks well for Now merry Christmas comes again, And Santa Claus doth fret the soul.

paper decorating, which can be ob encourage them to give. Provide a should not be allowed to exceed 45 de- it before the door, saying: from those who have used them in the giving. Announce that the classes California holly is not a member of horses, another for the cows, another "Well, Johnnie, what are you going As for the Yule logs, they are not per-

TRIES OF EUROPE.

must be settled. It is an important have a strong undercurrent of the true cial need provided. It was the happiest, pleasing and humanizing kind, and question. The matter should not be purpose and spirit of the blessed Christ-busiest Christmas which I ever saw a among the rural population the brute carelessly considered. Those having mas time. You do not need to give the the arrangements in charge should not children a Christmas sermon or lec- miss the blessedness which comes from ties. forget that something more essential ture, but you do need to be careful that than sweetments and gifts, and a jolly the dear Jesus, in whose name the cele-

the end in itself, but should be the guidance. At some specially favorable genuity, and underlying it all there their heads to the castward and get means to the end of honoring the and appropriate part of the programme should be the earnest desire to give true down upon their knees to worship the Christ, in memory of whose birth the let the thought of the claims of Christ celebration is held. It is so easy in the be sweetly and briefly pressed home to Christmas season the barnyard cocks were accustomed to crow with unusual force and frequency by day and by night. Scandinavian peninsula were accust in it? tomed to celebrate, at this searon, the

great festival of their gods. When the cople of the peninsuin became Christians, although no less zealous for their Christmas observances, they remined rome of the old practices, and are to this day careful to associate with themselves in its fertivities every living thing Why the Holiday Is Always Celeabout them. The author of "The Land of the Midnight San" tells us in his account of a Christmas In Norway "The Christman feeding of the birds is prevalent in many of the provinces of are placed on the roofs of houses, on

Norway and Sweden. Bunches of oats Two or three days before cartioads of heaves are brought into the towns for this purpose, and both rich and poor had saved a penny or two, or even one farthing, to buy a bunch of oats for the birds to have their Christmas. On this day, on many farms, the dear old horse, goats, and even the pig "ecel ie double their usual amount of food. It is a the goodness of heart of the Scandingvian. A singular custom prevails in Servia

and Bulgaria among the orthodox. If it can possibly be avoided no one crosses a strange threshold on Christmas day. It often happens that Christmas In the same countries an early ceremony weather is not too severe, it should be which old and young participate. Then the amount of money to be spent, but the very heart and spirit of Christmas. greens are frozen in transit. In such has to be performed by the head of each with a resourceful and tasty person in Give to the children by all means, but cases put them at once into a very household. Before breakfast is served charge it is surprising how far a few be sure that carefully laid plans are cool, dark cellar where they can thaw corn is placed in a stocking, and the tollars can be made to go. The colored made to enlist their sympathies and to out very gradually. The temperature chief of the family aprinales a little of mined at all Sunday school and denom- definite object for the children's benefit green Fahrenheit. Frozen holly is born;" to which each of the inmates reinational supply houses very cheaply, cence. Be sure they understand exactly very little damaged if intelligently plies: "He is been indeed." Then the makes a good substitute for the more what is wanted and that it is within treated, but a single night in a warm house father has to wish, and advancentertainment is held after Chrisimas, the matter in such attractive way that Mistletoe and wild smilax are much ing in reaciness, strikes them till t is easy to secure tree and trimmings there will be uniqueness and charm in more susceptible to frost injury. The sparks fly out, with a good wish for the their homes, and in this way considence to make their offerings in stockings the holly, but of the rose family. It for the goats, and so on through the erable expense may be saved. The made of bright colored cambrie; that is not hardy in New England, but is whole farming stock, wincing up with feller "Mr. Santa Blaus Adam." Why work of the destrations committee may these stockings are to be hung up be- worth cultivating in all parts of the an extra blow for a plenteous harvest. Then the ashes are collected, a coin is That isn't Santa Claus' nache. placed among them and the whole is bloden or to some districts, burned, Blindman's buff needs no explana- made me a one-dollar-forty-nine-cent in evergreen or paper lettering. Utilize and heavy that they could not be bung to give your little brother for thrist- mittel to amolder quite away, but are carrfully garnered, and the burnt ends The possibilities of the entertain fun and laughter as there was, with last year, "- Unleago Record-Recald, incide a bountiful crop-

ney, his hobby-horse and train, and every-thing. He will be tent up in Henren withaut them, specially his horse. He always
suppose riding it so much. So you just
ake them to him, and you reedn't mind
teaving anything to me. If you could give
papa something that would make him
stop crying all the time, it would be the
best you could do for me. I hear him tell
mamma that only entrity could care him.
Could you give him some of that? He are
to take the things to Charile, and i will
be your good little guit. MARLAN."

his voice. "Well, Santa Claus came and took the hobby-horse and the train and everything. If he did not take there to Charlie, he did the next best thing; he left them with a little fellow with when it comes, it does not always may be able to make some suggestions back to the institute laden with various odd ideas regarding the Christmas sea- a twisted leg at the Children's hosbring good cheer to the Sanday school that will prove helpful to those having bundles of wearing apparel and toys, son. Are mg the observances that grew pital. Whether old Santa Claus had superintendent and his helpers, who the matter of entertainment in charge. The individual need of each adopted up by degrees all over Europe, many of any eternity to give away or not, I

HIS CHRISTMAS "NIXIE." The Experience of a Post Office Clerk at the Holiday Season. The "Nixie" clerk-the one to whom goes all mail with insufficient or illegible addresses-took from his dask in a quiet corner of the post office a tiny,

"I never came across a Nixie that was addressed to anyone I knew except this one. Last Christmas the letters began to pile in as usual, addressed to Santa Claus. I reckon I get a hundred every year. On Christmas eve I was working late, and was

very sad and lonely here in my corner. There was a great rush at the other windows of the office, and the

mails were loaded with Christman

gifts and greetings. A merry crowd rushed through the corridors and

laughter sounded all around, but a

great shadow of sorrow rested over

me, and my eyes burned as I bent over my work. Finally the messenger

brought me the last few Nixies of the

day, and laid them on my deak, I

took up the first one mechanically. Attached to it was a note from Carrier

"This was given me by a little girl

"My blood tingled when I read It, for that was my own home. The en-

velope was a small one, addressed to

Santa Chus, North Pole, I recognized my own little girl's cramped

writing. I thought I had a right to

open it, as I was her Santa Claus, al-

hough she did not know it. This is

He carefully surend it out, and ..eld

"Dear Santa Claus: We are very sad, at our home this year, and I don't want you to bring me anything. Little Charile, my brother, went up to Heaven last week, and all I want you to do when you come to my house is to take his toys to him. I will leave them in the corner by the chimney, his hobby-horse, and train, and every them. I will be to the train and every them.

In the allence that followed the read-

ing of the letter the Nixie clerk put

the tiny envelope back in his desk,

says the Youth's Companion. When

he did speak there was no sadness in

up so it could be read.

rumpled envelope.

No. 34:

the letter."

at 302 Walnut street."



Fat Lady-Going to hang up your stocking, are you? What do you want

Midget-I'm lookin' for an automobile. What are you? Fat Lady-Oh, I'm hoping for a diamond ring.-Chicago Daily News.

FIXING CHRISTMAS DAY. brated on the Twenty-Fifth

of December. There are no definite allusions in the writings of any of the disciples of Christ as to the date of His birth, nor has there ever been produced proof of any character as to the exact period in the year when Christ was born, There are, very true, occasional references to the event in the Scriptures indicating that the nativity occurred in the winter season.

The institution of the anniversary dates back to the second century of Christendom, and it has been since uniformly celebrated by nearly albranches of the Christian church with appropriate rejoicings and ceremonies. The frequent, and somewhat heated, controversies, however, relative to the date of Christ's birth early in the feurth century led Pope Julius I. to order a thorough investigation of the subject by the learned theologians and historians of that period, which resulted in an agreement upon December 25, and that decision seemed to have so settled all disputes that that date was universally accepted except by the Greek church, says the American Queen. While this date was never "Christ is changed, the reckoning of it is made according to the Gregorian calendar, which was adopted in the latter part of the sixteeath century, and upon which computations of time in nearly all civilized nations have since rested.

> Christmas Adam Mamma-You have addressed your did you put the Adam there, dear? Bobbic-Well, who is the Christmas

Adam, then? "What Christman Adam? I never beard of on "There's a Christman Eve, and there at the back of the pulpit. And such "I dunno I give him the measles placed to claits in fruit trees, so as to ought to be a Christman Adam. should think "- Kansus City Lyornal

and sw and wa ing 609 ER. beriff.

1905

County ancery.